GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:339
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Begging Cases
Kaushik Shri Ramesh Chander

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that children and women are found begging at red lights in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check beggary?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The details of anti begging operations and trials by the beggars' courts are as under for the year 2015 (upto Sept.):-
â€¢ Persons arrested by Anti begging squads/teams: 2960
â€¢ Beggars committed by Court to beggar home: 919
â€¢ Beggars released by the court: 2041

Children found begging on streets fall under the category of children in need of care and protection under the provisions of Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act,2000

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Government of NCT of Delhi (GNCTD) to check begging:

(i) The Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959 has been extended to the NCT of Delhi in the year 1960. The GNCTD has also framed the Delhi Prevention of Begging Rules, 1960 to check beggary in Delhi.

(ii) 11 certified institutions have been set up under the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959 with the sanctioned capacity of 2,180 inmates.
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(iii) Anti begging squads/teams are operational to apprehend the beggars from all over Delhi.

(iv) In addition to one regular Beggar Court at Sewa Kutir, Kingsway Camp, two Mobile beggar Courts have already become functional since 1.9.2009 to decentralize the work of Beggar Courts.

(v) Biometric machines are installed at Reception-Cum-Classification centre (RCC) to identify repeat offenders and to keep up − to - date record of beggars.

(vi) Advisory Committee has been constituted under the provision of the Bombay prevention of Begging Act 1959 for a period of three years to advise and suggest measures for improvement in the Beggars Home.

(vii) GNCTD is running 20 bedded Drug De-addiction Centre in partnership with an NGO at Beggar Home-I, Lampur for the beggars indulging in substance abuse convicted by Hon'ble Beggars Court.

(viii) A mechanism is in place that whenever the information of child indulging in beggary is received by Police or Child helpline (1098), the rescue operation is accordingly conducted. The child is produced before the concerned Child Welfare Committee setup under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000 which inturn, after considering the facts and merits of each case, either restores the child to his /her family or orders for his/her institutionalization in any of the Child Care Institutes run by Govt. or NGO.

(ix) Govt. of NCT of Delhi has set up 14 Child Care Institutions for children in need of care and protection. The children are housed as per their age and sex in different Child Care Institutions where they are provided with all basic facilities including boarding, lodging,

food, education (basic education / non formal education), mental and physical health services. Efforts are made by the staff of the institution to contact the parents/ guardians for their restoration and repatriation.

(x) There are 68 NGO run Children Homes, 08 Shelter Homes, 13 Open Shelters and 12 Adoption Agencies which are also taking care of the children who need care & protection and are making all efforts to mainstream the children through education and social reintegration. In most cases of child beggary, the children are released back to their parents by the Child Welfare Committee after taking into consideration the best interest of the child.

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